particularly Manipur and Assam with regard to the new ceasefire agreement?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I. D. SWAMI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Two formal rounds of talks were held with the Chief Ministers of the concerned North-Eastern States including Manipur on 28th September, 2000 and 2nd March, 2001.

(c) It has been the position of the Government of India that the territorial integrity of the North-Eastern States would be kept intact. This was reiterated by the Prime Minister in his appeal made to the people of Manipur on 8th July, 2001, while announcing the Government's decision to review the ceasefire agreement including the words "without territorial limits". As a part of the process of review, the Prime Minister would meet the Chief Ministers of the North-Eastern States, on 27th July, 2001.

Freedom Fighters

342. SHRI SOLIPETA RAMACHANDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of freedom fighters, State-wise and category-wise as on 30th June, 2001;

(b) the age of the youngest and the oldest freedom fighter as on 30th June, 2001;

(c) the total number of freedom fighters' widows, State-wise category-wise; and

(d) the age of the youngest and oldest widow of the freedom fighters, category-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYA SAGAR RAO): (a) A statement showing the number of freedom fighters sanctioned Central Samman Pension State-wise as on 30-6-2001 is annexed (*see* below). Category-wise information is not maintained.

(b) to (d) As per the records maintained, Swatantrata Sainik

Samman Pension has so far been granted to 1,64,481 freedom fighters including their widows and other eligible dependents in cases where such freedom fighters were no more. However, category and age-wise break up of such pensioners is not maintained.

Statement

State-wise number of freedom fighters sanctioned Central Samman Pension

Sl. No.	Name of State/UT	No. of Pensions Sanctioned Upto June 30th, 2001
1.	Andhra Pradesh	11,256
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0
3.	Assam	4,436
4.	Bihar	24,826
5.	Goa	911
6.	Gujarat	3,585
7.	Haryana	1,677
8.	Himachal Pradesh	604
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	1,806
10.	Karnataka	10,015
11.	Kerala	2,899
12.	Madhya Pradesh	3,362
13.	Maharashtra	16,546
14.	Manipur	62
15.	Meghalaya	86
16.	Mizoram	04
17.	Nagaland	03
18.	Orissa	4,182
19.	Punjab	6,987
20.	Rajasthan	800
21.	Tamil Nadu	4,092
22.	Tripura	887

Sl. No.	Name of State/UT	No. of Pensions Sanctioned Upto June 30th, 2001
23.	Uttar Pradesh	17,977
24.	West Bengal	22,450
25.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	03
26.	Chandigarh	89
27.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	83
28.	Daman & Diu	33
29.	NCT of Delhi	2,040
30.	Pondicherry	316
31.	Indian National Army (INA)	22,464
	TOTAL:	1,64,481

Discussion of BSF with Pakistani Rangers team regarding patrolling

343. SHRI C. O. POULOSE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the issue relating to the construction of an electrified security fence in the Jammu region was recently discussed by BSF with Pakistani Sutlej Rangers team;

(b) whether the question for resolving problems related to patrolling the India-Pakistan border was also taken up; and

(c) if so, the details of decisions taken at the meeting?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYA SAGAR RAO): (a) to (c) The issue relating to construction of security fencing along the Jammu International Border, *inter alia,* came up for discussion in the meeting held between Border Security Force and Pak Rangers from 9th to 12th May, 2001. Indian delegation pointed out that Border Security Force has the right to construct any defence structure to check infiltration/smuggling from across the International Borders.

Other issues such as trans-border terrorism, smuggling, maintenance of border pillars, inadvertent border crossings and simultaneous pre-decided joint patrolling were also discussed in the said meeting. Such meetings are aimed at establishing a working relationship between the two border-guarding forces.